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D. Beyer

7/17/02

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Thomas J. Bachinski et al.

Application No.: 09/406,575 Confirmation No.: 1763

Filed : September 24, 1999

For : MEDICAL GRAFTING CONNECTORS AND
FASTENERS

Group Art Unit : 3738

Examiner : Paul Prebilic

New York, New York
July 2, 2002

Hon. Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 2327
Arlington, VA 22202

TC 3700 MAIL ROOM
JUL 2 2002

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REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), applicants
hereby petition for a one-month extension of time to reply
to the Office Action dated March 6, 2002. With the
extension, a reply is due on or before July 6, 2002. A
check in the amount of \$110.00, in payment of the fee
required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(c), is enclosed herewith.

In reply to the March 6, 2002 Office Action,
please amend the above-identified patent application as
follows:

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 1-24 without prejudice.